



# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release July 10, 1984

David Klinger (202) 343-5634

1984 "DUCK STAMP" CONTEST OPENS;  
NOVEMBER JUDGING WILL CAP 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 1984 Federal "Duck Stamp" competition to select the winning design for the 1985-86 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp opened for entries on July 1, 1984.

Judging for the Nation's foremost wildlife art contest, to be held on November 6 and 7, 1984, in Washington, D.C., will cap a year of commemorative activities in observance of the "Duck Stamp's" 50th anniversary.

The popular revenue stamp, required of all migratory waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and older, was created in 1934 as a means of generating revenue to acquire land for the National Wildlife Refuge System. During the past 50 years, over 3.5 million acres have been bought with more than \$285 million in "Duck Stamp" dollars.

Since 1949, the design for each year's colorful stamp has been chosen through the Federal Government's only regularly sponsored art competition. The contest attracts thousands of entries, each of them depicting North American ducks, geese, or swans in their natural habitat.

"This year's commemoration is, in large part, tribute to noted political cartoonist J.N. 'Ding' Darling, who designed the first stamp in 1934," says Fish and Wildlife Service Director Robert Jantzen. "Our activities this November will pay that tribute to Darling, and to the 'Duck Stamp' idea, which has worked well for wildlife for half a century."

(over)

Entries for the 1984 judging may now be sent in and must be postmarked no later than October 1. The November 6 and 7 judging will be held at the Department of the Interior auditorium, 18th and C Streets, N.W., in Washington, D.C., beginning at 9 a.m. each day.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has announced the following changes in rules for this year's contest:

- The non-refundable entry fee has been increased to \$25;
- The following five species are ineligible to be depicted in this year's competition, each having been selected as winning designs during the previous 5 years: mallard, ruddy duck, canvasback, pintail, and wigeon;
- The number of judges has been increased to seven, and the judging process has been modified to discount the highest and lowest individual scores for each entry under consideration.

Copies of the complete rules and regulations for the 1984 "Duck Stamp" contest and the reproduction rights agreement are available from the "Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp" Contest, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. Entries must be submitted to the same address.

(A notice of the 1984 "Duck Stamp" competition and a listing of changes in contest rules and regulations appeared in the May 11, 1984, Federal Register.)